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ABSTRACT

This book discusses the demographic, cultural, linguistic, socioeconomic, and educational characteristics of Hispanic children and youth. Chapters cover: (1) historical and demographic overview (history of Hispanic presence in the United States, geographic distribution, population size and growth, migration, social and cultural patterns, parent economic status and educational attainment, and status of Hispanic children and youth); (2) Hispanic diversity (Mexican-Americans, Puerto Ricans, Cubans, Dominicans, Central and South Americans, and refugees); (3) Hispanic culture, cultural change and acculturation, language characteristics of children and youth, and proficient partial, and limited bilingualism; (4) family structure and organization, education, occupation and income, housing, paternal support, social and economic dependence, child abuse and neglect, foster care, and teenage pregnancy; (5) education (educational attainment, academic achievement, access to quality programs, school retention, student-school relationship, overrepresentation of Hispanic children in special education, and parent involvement); (6) language issues in education (bilingual education, English as a Second Language, immersion, bilingual Hispanic teachers, and the "official English" menace); (7) health (data limitations, infant mortality, maternal factors, child health, AIDS, chemical dependency, and mental health status); (8) criminal justice system, delinquency, and possible causes and prevention of delinquency; (9) parent employment status, employment opportunities for youth, and youth employment and unemployment; (10) higher education access and participation, Hispanic faculty, and graduation rates; (11) improvements needed in socioeconomic conditions, educational conditions, and community and parental support, recommendations for federal, state, and local initiatives; and (12) profiles of 12 advocacy organizations and a directory of over 170 Hispanic organizations related to child and

family advocacy, education, health, immigration, and youth labor. This book contains over 140 references, an annotated bibliography of 65 entries, and author and subject indexes. (SV)

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